

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A method ~~[[for]]~~ of transmitting messages on a telecommunications network, ~~characterized in that it comprises the method comprising~~ the steps of: ~~[[-]]~~

receiving ~~[[(17)]]~~ from a sender terminal ~~[[(18)]]~~ a text message, ~~[[-]]~~

synthesizing from the text message a synthesized voice signal,

generating a video content having an animated image as an image of a character that pronounces the synthesized voice signal,

integrating ~~[[(16)]]~~ said text message with ~~[[a]]~~ the video content ~~[[,]]~~ to generate a multimedia message, and ~~[[-]]~~

transmitting ~~[[(10)]]~~ to at least a recipient terminal ~~{12, 13, 14}~~ said multimedia message in the form of a ~~[[n MMS]]~~ Multimedia Messaging Service message.

2. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that it comprises further comprising~~ the step of

receiving ~~[[(17)]]~~ said text message in the form of a ~~[[n SMS]]~~ Short Messaging Service message.

3. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising ~~o claim 2, characterized in that~~ the steps of: [[-]]

identifying the type of recipient terminal ~~{12, 13, 14}~~ able to receive said multimedia message by identifying the characteristics of said recipient terminal, and [[-]]

adapting [[(16,326 ; 10)]] said [[MMS]] Multimedia Messaging Service message to the characteristics of said recipient terminal ~~{12, 13, 14}~~.

4. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it comprises the step of integrating said text message with a generated video content [[(326)]] in such a way that said multimedia message is suited to the characteristics of said recipient terminal ~~{12, 13, 14}~~.

5. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ further comprising the steps of: [[-]]

complementing said text message with a video content determined independently from the characteristics of the recipient terminal ~~{12, 13, 14}~~ and [[-]]

adapting [[(10)]] the multimedia message thereby obtained to the characteristics of said recipient terminal ~~{12, 13, 14}~~.

6 - 8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising 8, ~~characterized in that it comprises the~~ step of

generating the image of said character by means of a text animation system [(308,310)].

10. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, further comprising the step of

integrating [(328)] said [(MMS)] Multimedia Messaging Service message with background music [(330)].

11. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, further comprising the step of

including in said video content an image animated GIF image in Graphics Interchange Format.

12 - 13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, further comprising the step of

providing [[,]] in said sender terminal [[(18),]] a script function for the selection of said video content and of said recipient terminal ~~{12, 13, 14}~~.

15. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, further comprising the step of

providing [[,]] in said sender terminal [[(18)]], a function for the automatic correction of any error ~~which may be~~ contained in said text message.

16. (currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, further comprising the step of

associating [[to]] with said text message meta-information for selectively modifying the characteristics of said video content.

17. (currently amended) The method as claimed in any of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1, further comprising the step of

associating [[to]] with said text message additional information in the form of emoticons for selectively modifying the characteristics of said video content.

18. (currently amended) The method as claimed in any of the previous claims, characterized in that claim 1 wherein said video content is selected within from the group constituted by: [[-]]

an animated [[GIF]] image in Graphics Interchange Format ordered in frames, with respective portions of said text message associated thereto, [[-]]

an animated [[GIF]] image in Graphics Interchange Format accompanied by compressed audio, and [[-]]

a video clip ~~completed with~~ containing audio.

19. (currently amended) A system for transmitting messages on a telecommunications network, characterized in that it comprises — the system comprising:

a reception module [[(17)]] for receiving a text message from a sender terminal [[(18)]], [[-]]

a voice synthesizer for synthesizing from the text message a voice signal,

a motion-generating module for generating an animated image as an image of a character that pronounces the synthesized voice signal,

a video-generating module for generating a video content comprising the animated image,

a processing set [(16)] having at least a data base [(302,314, 330)] of video information and at least [an] one integration module [(326,328)] for integrating said text message with a video content [,] to generate a multimedia message, and
[-]

a transmission module [(10)] for transmitting to at least a recipient terminal {12, 13, 14} said multimedia message in the form of a [n MMS] Multimedia Messaging Service message.

20. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 19 ~~, characterized in that~~ wherein said reception module [(17)] is configured to receive from said sender terminal [(18)] a text message in the form of a [n MMS] Short Messaging Service message.

21. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 19, ~~further comprising or claim 20, characterized in that~~ comprises: [-]

a detection module [(300; 10)] for detecting the type of recipient terminal {12, 13, 14} intended as the recipient of

said multimedia message by identifying the characteristics ~~[[TD]]~~ of said recipient terminal, and ~~[-]~~

a module ~~{16,326,10}~~ for adapting said ~~[[MMS]]~~ Multimedia Messaging Service message to the characteristics of said recipient terminal ~~{12,13,14}~~.

22. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 21 ~~, characterized in that~~ wherein said integration module ~~[[326,328]]~~ is configured for integrating said text message with a generated video content ~~[[326]]~~ in such a way that said multimedia message is suited to the characteristics of said recipient terminal ~~{12,13,14}~~.

23. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 21 ~~, characterized in that~~ wherein said integration module ~~[[326,328]]~~ is configured to integrate said text message with a determined video content independently from the characteristics of the recipient terminal ~~{12,13,14}~~ and in that the system has, associated therewith ~~[[to]]~~, a module for the transmission of MMS messages ~~[[10]]~~ configured to subject said multimedia message to an step ~~[[10]]~~ of adapting it to the characteristics of said recipient terminal ~~{12,13,14}~~.

n

24 - 26. (canceled)

27. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim ~~26, characterized in that~~ 19 wherein said motion-generating generation module ~~[[308,310]]~~ is a text animation system, ~~such as the JoeXpress system.~~

28. (currently amended) The system as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims 19 to 27, characterized in that it comprises~~ claim 19, further comprising

a database ~~[[330]]~~ of background music co-operating with said ~~at least an~~ integration module ~~[[326,328]]~~ to integrate said ~~[[MMS]]~~ Multimedia Messaging Service message with background music.

29. (currently amended) The system as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims 19 to 28, characterized in that~~ claim 19 wherein said integration module ~~[[326, 328]]~~ is configured to include in said video content an animated ~~[[GIF]]~~ image of Graphics Interchange Format.

30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended) The system as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims~~ claim 19 a 30, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said reception module ~~[[17]]~~ includes an information extraction block ~~[[300]]~~ for extracting from said text message received from

said sender terminal [(18)] at least a field identifying a characteristic [s] of said video content [,] selected within from the group constituted by: [-]

a virtual character [(P)] to be used for the presentation of said text message, and [-]

a background [(A)] of said multimedia content.

32. (currently amended) The system as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims 19 to 31, characterized in that claim 19~~ wherein said processing set [(16)] having said ~~at least a~~ database [(302,314, 330)] of video information and said ~~at least an~~ integration module [(326, 328)] to integrate said text message with a video content is configured to generate a multimedia message selected within the group constituted by: [-]

an animated [(GIF)] image in Graphics Interchange Format ordered in frames [,] with associated respective portions of said text message, [-]

an animated [(GIF)] image in Graphics Interchange Format complete with [a] compressed audio, and [-]

a video clip complete with audio.

33. (currently amended) A sender terminal for a system as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims 19 to 32, characterized in that claim 19 wherein~~ said sender terminal [(18)] is provided

with a script function for selecting said video content and said recipient terminal ~~{12, 13, 14}~~.

34. (currently amended) The sender terminal for a system as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims 19 a 32,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ claim 19 wherein said sender terminal ~~[[18]]~~ is provided with a function of automatic correction of any error which may be contained in said text message.

35. (currently amended) The sender terminal for a system as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims 19 a 32,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ claim 19 wherein said sender terminal ~~[[18]]~~ is provided with a function for associating ~~[[to]]~~ with said text message meta-information for selectively modifying the characteristics of said video content.

36. (currently amended) The sender terminal for a system as claimed in ~~any of the previous claims 19 a 32,~~ ~~characterized in that~~ claim 19 wherein said sender terminal ~~[[18]]~~ is provided with a function for associating ~~[[to]]~~ with said text message additional information in the form of emoticons for selectively modifying the characteristics of said video content.